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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/576,462	05/23/2000	Cliff Burke Thompson,	22851-P001US	4101

7590

10/09/2002

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EXAMINER

HUSEMAN, MARIANNE

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

3621

DATE MAILED: 10/09/2002

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

**Office Action Summary**

Application No.

09/576,462

Applicant(s)

THOMPSON ET AL.

Examiner

M. Huseman

Art Unit

3621

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --  
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

**Status**

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 16 July 2002.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

**Disposition of Claims**

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-62 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-62 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

**Application Papers**

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.  
If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

**Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120**

- 13) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).  
a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:  
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.  
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.  
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).  
\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).  
a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

**Attachment(s)**

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) \_\_\_\_\_
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). \_\_\_\_\_
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other:

**DETAILED ACTION**

**Status of Claims**

1. Claims 1 – 62 are pending in this Application. Applicants' remarks regarding the specification objections and the 35 USC §112 rejections have been considered and are withdrawn. Applicants' arguments with respect to the art rejections of claims 1-60 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

**Claim Objections**

2. Claim 61 is objected to because of the following informalities: In claim 61, line 12, the "." should probably be a -;--. Appropriate correction is required.

**Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102**

3. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention thereof by the applicant for patent, or on an international application by another who has fulfilled the requirements of paragraphs (1), (2), and (4) of section 371(c) of this title before the invention thereof by the applicant for patent.

The changes made to 35 U.S.C. 102(e) by the American Inventors Protection Act of 1999 (AIPA) do not apply to the examination of this application as the application being examined was not (1) filed on or after November 29, 2000, or (2) voluntarily published under 35 U.S.C. 122(b). Therefore, this application is examined under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) prior to the amendment by the AIPA (pre-AIPA 35 U.S.C. 102(e)).

4. Claims 1, 4, 6 - 10, 13, 15 – 34, 38 – 53, 55 – 59, 61 and 62 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Pool et al.

Regarding claims 1, 7, 10, 16, 29, 30, 32, 33, 39 – 42, 44 – 49 and 45:

Pool et al teach an international transaction system such that Applicants' product id reads on the commodity code, Applicants' database of tariff classification reads on the third database, and Applicants' step of outputting a data record reads on the generation of "appropriate documents" by the third database.

Regarding claims 4 and 13:

See column 10, lines 18 – 22.

Regarding claims 6, 15 and 20:

See column 10, lines 22 – 47.

Regarding claims 8, 17, 23, 26, 31, 43, 52 and 55:

Although not specifically disclosed by Pool et al, updating a database in order for the information to stay current is considered inherent to any system that depends on ever-changing data, such as would be the case in international shipping. Pool et al does disclose, for instance, that the conversion rate (second database) for currency is continually updated. See also, columns 6 and 7, lines 3 – 18 and lines 15 – 27.

Regarding claims 9 and 18:

See column 12, lines 46 – 53.

Regarding claims 19 and 21:

Applicants' server reads on the web site of column 3, lines 41 – 44, Applicants' first computer reads on the computer operated by the international transaction system, Applicants' program reads on the program used by the third database, and Applicants' second computer reads on the customer's computer.

Regarding claim 22:

See column 10, lines 22 – 37.

Regarding claims 24 and 25:

Applicants' third programming steps read on the operator (second user) of the third database.

Regarding claims 27, 28, 38 and 50:

See column 5, lines 2 – 58.

Regarding claims 34, 51 and 53:

Pool et al. teach creating custom entry reports for customers. See columns 11 – 12, lines 35 – 67 and 1 – 53, respectively.

Regarding claims 56 - 59, 61 and 62:

See columns 9 through 12, lines 5 through to 53.

***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103***

5. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

6. Claims 2, 3, 5, 11, 12, 14, 35 - 37, 54 and 60 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Pool et al.

Regarding claims 2, 3, 5, 11, 12, 14 and 54:

Although Pool et al do not specifically teach emailing/downloading/scanning the data record they do disclose electronically processing the data record between the different interested parties. Therefore, it is considered that it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to email/download/scanning the record if desired. See column 9, lines 10 – 12 and column 10, lines 18 – 25.

Regarding claim 35:

While Pool et al do not specifically disclose sorting by tariff numbers, it is considered that it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to sort by tariff number as it would be quicker for the customer to review the entry report to make sure that every product desired to purchase was included in the report.

Regarding claim 36:

Pool et al. teach creating custom entry reports for customers. See columns 11 – 12, lines 35 – 67 and 1 – 53, respectively.

Regarding claims 37 and 60:

Although Pool et al do not specifically disclose whether or not the screen is split, splitting screens is an old and well-known practice so that the viewer can see more than one screen view at a time. Therefore, it is considered that it would have been obvious, if not inherent, for the system of Pool et al to utilize split screens when displaying the information to the customer.

### **Conclusion**

7. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to M. Huseman whose telephone number is 703-605-4277. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday - Friday, 6:30 AM - 3:00 PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, James Trammell can be reached on 703-305-9768. The fax phone

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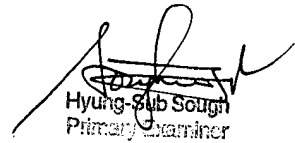
numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are 703-305-7687 for regular communications and 703-305-7687 for After Final communications.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is 703-308-1113.



M. Huseman  
Examiner  
Art Unit 3621

mh  
October 4, 2002



Hyung-Sub Soung  
Primary Examiner